

Claims:

1. A tufting needle (4) comprising

5 a needle body (7) having a shaft (9) which, at an end, terminates in a tip (8) and which is provided with an eyelet (6) and, in the vicinity thereof, has a hollow flute (15); the opening direction of the eyelet (6) is oriented perpendicularly to a
10 reference plane (28),

wherein the hollow flute (15) is provided with at least one chamfer (33, 34) which is arranged at an inclination to the reference plane (28) and which,
15 in the vicinity of the needle center (29), forms an acute angle (α) with the reference plane (28); the angle (α) is smaller than an angle (β) which is formed by the chamfer (33, 34) with the reference plane (28) at a greater lateral distance from the
20 needle center (29).

2. The tufting needle as defined in claim 1, characterized in that the needle body (7) is
25 flattened.

3. The tufting needle as defined in claim 1, characterized in that the needle body (7) is provided with a yarn groove (19) at its side remote from the hollow flute (15).
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4. The tufting needle as defined in claim 1, characterized in that the hollow flute (15) has the shape of a longitudinally stretched saddle.

5. The tufting needle as defined in claim 1,
characterized in that it is symmetrical to a central
plane (29) which is perpendicular to the reference
plane (28) and which is oriented in the direction
5 (11) of needle length.
6. The tufting needle as defined in claim 1,
characterized in that the hollow, flute (15) is
bilaterally provided with chamfers (33, 34).
- 10 7. The tufting needle as defined in claim 6,
characterized in that the chamfers (33, 34) are
symmetrical to a central plane (29) which is
perpendicular to the reference plane (28) and which
15 is oriented in the direction (11) of needle length.
8. The tufting needle as defined in claim 1,
characterized in that the chamfer (33, 34) extends
along the entire length of the hollow flute (15).
- 20 9. The tufting needle as defined in claim 1,
characterized in that the chamfer (33, 34) has at
least two facet surfaces (35, 36; 37, 38), each
forming a different angle (α , β) with the reference
- plane (28).
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10. The tufting needle as defined in claim 9,
characterized in that the facets (35, 36; 37, 38)
change into a rounded surface (41, 42).
- 30 11. The tufting needle as defined in claim 1,
characterized in that the chamfer (33, 34) is
constituted by an arcuate surface (41, 42).

12. The tufting needle as defined in claim 1,
characterized in that the width of the shank (9) is,
in the region of the hollow flute (15), enlarged
relative to the width in other shank parts.
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13. The tufting needle as defined in claim 1,
characterized in that in the hollow flute (15),
between the chamfers (33, 34), a planar surface (32)
is provided which is deeper than the adjoining
10 surfaces (16, 17).
14. The tufting needle as defined in claim 1,
characterized in that the opening direction of the
eyelet (6) is oriented perpendicularly to the
15 reference plane (28) and that the hollow flute (15)
is parallel to the reference plane (28).